SOUTH MOUNTAIN TRAILS

South Mountain Park, located in the southern part of Phoenix, is the world’s largest municipal park. The park offers a wide range of natural resources for desert awareness education.

ACTIVITIES

» Girl Scout Brownies – complete the starred (★) activity + 4 additional activities
» Girl Scout Juniors – complete the starred (★) activity + 5 additional activities
» Girl Scout Cadettes – complete the starred (★) activity + 6 additional activities
» Girl Scout Seniors – complete the starred (★) activity + 6 additional activities

1.* Learn the rules of desert safety and trail etiquette.

2. Find out more about the different outdoor programs offered at the park and attend one of the programs that are appropriate to the age level of the girls. What career opportunities are available in the park?

3. Volunteer to conduct a service project at the park. Keep the service appropriate to the age level of the girls. For Example:
   • Brownie Girl Scout Brownies – Trash pick-up at one of the park’s picnic facilities, plant seeds or re-vegetate an area with a park ranger.
   • Girl Scout Juniors – Re-vegetation or organize a park clean-up day.
   • Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors – Re-vegetation, trail maintenance or adopt an area program.

4. Have a park employee or knowledgeable volunteer speak on desert safety or attend a desert safety workshop offered by South Mountain Park.

5. Research a desert plant, animal or insect you want to know more about and share your knowledge with your troop and/or family.

6. Learn about the Hohokam Indians and hike up to Hidden Valley, Pima Canyon, or Fat Man Pass to look at petroglyphs. On paper, make some petroglyphs of your own.

7. Learn how the lack of rainfall and the encroachment of buildings close to the preserve are affecting wildlife on the mountain. Find out what is being done to help the situation and what you can do to help.

8. Identify four different types of vegetation found in the South Mountain Preserve. Find out one important fact about each type. What methods are being used to monitor and protect these plants?

9. Identify a poisonous plant and animals found in the South Mountain Preserve.